

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01583 091010Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----091014Z 011303 /22

O R 090940Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3595
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 1583

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, LE, SY, IS, PLO
SUBJECT: THE SITUATION IN SOUTH LEBANON

REF: DAMASCUS 2278

1. FIGHTING IN MARJAYUN AREA CONTINUES, ALTHOUGH REPORTS INDICATE THAT YESTERDAY, APRIL 8, WAS A RELATIVELY QUIET DAY. CHRISTIANS APPARENTLY STILL HOLD MOST OF THE TOWN ITSELF BUT PROBABLY COULD NOT RESIST A DETERMINED PALESTINIAN ATTACK. ON OTHER HAND, WE HAVE REPORT THAT SYRIAN SPECIAL FORCES UNITS THAT HAD BEEN FIGHTING IN THE SOUTH IN FATAH AND SAIQA UNIFORMS HAVE WITHDRAWN NORTH OF NABATIYAH, WHICH MAY RPT MAY INDICATE SITUATION IS STABILIZING. NO FURTHER MILITARY ACTION REPORTED IN TAIBEH AREA. CHRISTIANS REPORTEDLY SHELLLED NABATIYAH FROM QULAYAH NIGHT OF APRIL 8/9.

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2. DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY HAS PICKED UP WITH VISIT OF SYRIAN COL. MOHAMMAD AL KHOLI TO BEIRUT APRIL 8. KHOLI DELIVERED VERBAL MESSAGES FROM PRESIDENT ASAD TO PIERRE GEMAYEL, CAMILLE CHAMOUN, AND WRITTEN MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT SARKIS. HE SPENT NIGHT AT PRESIDENTIAL PALACE AND IS VISITING SULEIMAN FRANGIEH IN EHDEN TODAY. PRESS SAYS THAT WHILE IN BEIRUT AL KHOLI INVITED THE KFUR FRONT

TO VISIT DAMASCUS FOR CONSULTATIONS ON THE APPLICATION
OF THE CAIRO ACCORDS AND OTHER RESOLUTIONS OF THE RIYADH
AND CAIRO SUMMIT CONFERENCES LAST FALL.

3. AMBASSADOR IS CALLING ON FONMIN BOUTROS AT 1130
TODAY, APRIL 9.

4. COMMENT: IT APPEARS SYRIANS HAVE TAKEN AMBASSADOR
MURPHY'S DEMARCHE SERIOUSLY. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE
THAT KHOLI WAS MET AT MDAYRIJ (NEAR CREST OF MOUNTAINS ON
WAY FROM DAMASCUS) BY KARIM PAKRADOUNI, PHALANGE PARTY
IDEOLOGUE, WHO PERHAPS ACTED AS INTERMEDIARY TO STIMULATE
KHOLI VISIT.
PARKER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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TAGS: PFOR, PINS, MOPS, LE, SY, IS, PLO, (AL KHOLI, MOHAMMAD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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